



# Livestock and Dairy

## **Cattle and Calves**

Virginia's Cattle and Calf numbers decreased by 40,000 in 2006. All cattle and calves in the commonwealth as of January 1, 2007, totaled 1.62 million head. Beef cow inventory decreased to 710,000 head compared to last year's 727,000 head. Milk cow inventory decreased by 3,000 to 100,000 head. The total inventory of cows that have calved decreased from last year to 810,000 head. In comparison to last year, milk cow replacement heifers remained the same, beef cow replacements decreased by 5,000 head, and other heifers increased by 7,000 head. Steers decreased to 130,000, bulls decreased to 40,000, and calves increased to 410,000 in 2006.

## **Milk Production**

Milk Production in Virginia totaled 1.77 billion pounds in 2006, remaining steady from 2005. Milk produced per cow increased from last year's 16,990 pounds to 17,363 pounds in 2006. The value of milk production decreased by 27 million dollars to 267.4 million dollars.

## **Sheep and Lambs**

Sheep and Lamb inventory in Virginia totaled 72,000 head on January 1, 2007, up 5,000 head compared to last year. There were 1,700 farms with sheep, comprising 2 percent of the national total. Ewes one year and older totaled 41,000 head, up 4,000 head from a year earlier. There were 12,000 replacement lambs on the first of the year, up 2,000 from last

## *(Sheep and Lambs continued)*

year. The 2006 lamb crop was 49,000 head unchanged from the previous year. Sheep and lambs on feed for market slaughter 16,000 head, unchanged from previous year. Virginia was 25<sup>th</sup> in the nation for total number of sheep.

## **Goats and Kids**

Goat and Kid inventory in Virginia totaled 47,800 head on January 1, 2007. Meat and all other goats totaled 44,000 head, up 3,000 head compared to last year. Milk goats totaled 3,800 head, up 600 head from a year earlier. Virginia ranks 12<sup>th</sup> in the nation for total number of meat and other goats.

## **Hogs and Pigs**

There were 365,000 Hogs and Pigs in Virginia as of December 1, 2006. This was down 125,000 head from last year. Breeding hog inventory totaled 30,000 head and market hogs totaled 335,000 head. Market hogs inventory decreased 120,000 head when compared to December 1, 2005. The 2006 pig crop totaled 548,000, up 1 percent from last year. Sows farrowed increased 3,000 head from the previous year at 62,000 head. The average pigs per litter was down 4 percent from last year. The number of farms raising hogs was unchanged from last year at 850 farms.